

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A nucleotide triphosphate comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex.

22. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose of said nucleotide.

23. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose via a linker at the 2' position.

24. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 21 wherein said electron transfer moiety is a transition metal complex.

25. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 24 wherein said transition metal complex comprises a ruthenium atom.

26. (currently amended) A The nucleotide according to claim 24 wherein said transition metal complex comprises an iron atom.

27. (currently amended) A method of making a nucleic acid comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex, said method comprising:

- a) providing a nucleotide comprising a covalently attached electron transfer moiety comprising a transition metal complex;
- b) converting said modified nucleotide into a modified nucleotide triphosphate; and
- c) incorporating said modified nucleotide triphosphate in a synthetic reaction to form a nucleic acid with a covalently attached electron transfer moiety.

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28. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose of said nucleotide.

29. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is attached to the ribose via a linker at the 2' position.

30. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 27 wherein said electron transfer moiety is a transition metal complex.

31. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 30 wherein said transition metal complex comprises ruthenium.

32. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 30 wherein said transition metal complex comprises iron.